

**EAST PALESTINE VILLAGE COUNCIL FEBRUARY 9, 2015 7 PM 85 N. MARKET ST.**

Mayor Zuch called the meeting to order, present was Atty. Beagle, Mr. Elzer, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Figley, Mr. Tyger and Mrs. Wisser. Also present was Village Manager Pete Monteleone, Law Director David Powers, Finance Director Traci Thompson and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Cohen. In reference to the monthly reports Mr. Elzer asked how the new mutual aid agreement differed from the old one. Chief Brown wasn't at the meeting but fireman John Simon stated that instead of completely dropping a call because of lack of personnel there may be one EMT from EP and then one from Negley or New Waterford. Mr. Elzer then asked if those are the only areas involved in the agreement and Simon said yes. The department reports for January were approved on a motion by Mr. Elzer, seconded by Mr. Cohen. There were no agenda items, clerks or mayors reports.

**MANAGER:** Manager Monteleone stated the Street Dept. is working hard to keep the roads clean. He said they placed on order for another 150 tons of road salt and that puts the total ordered at 300 tons for the winter. He said about 75 tons of limestone had been mixed into the salt and that state bid price for salt is \$102.00 per ton and that is up from \$33.00 per ton. He said that they had budgeted \$21,000.00 and that is the same as the last few years. He stated that Unity Township had received a \$50,000.00 grant that the Village is included in for new street signs and he has asked Steve Baird for a count on all of our signs. Mr. Elzer asked if we were over budget on salt because of the price and amount ordered and Monteleone said no because some of the salt had been purchased in 2014. Mr. Elzer also said in reference to the Splash Pad at the park he feels that it design wise it is being done incorrectly. He feels the splash pad itself is a great idea and the Community Foundation is doing a wonderful job but he feels the pass through system is going to make the water loss issue worse. Mr. Elzer also asked about the walking trail. Monteleone said he heard back on the movement of the 13 light poles and that the Village is responsible for that with a cost estimate of \$150,000.00 just to move them. He said he had asked the engineers if the trail could be designed around the poles but they haven't gotten back to him yet. Mr. Elzer said it's a 6ft path and that he has seen poles in the middle of sidewalks in other places. Atty. Beagle asked what harm it would do to have the poles in the middle of the sidewalks other than it being ugly. Monteleone said he was going to ask the engineers to come in and talk to council once they have concrete information. Mr. Cohen asked if Monteleone had a cost estimate on a pool liner and Monteleone said he has been told between \$75,000.00 to \$90,000.00 and that OMEGA is looking for any possible grants. Monteleone said that the wall is pulling away from where the heater is attached more every year and that in the next few years there are going to need to be substantial repairs made. Mr. Figley asked if it was correct that we bill around half of the water that is produced and Monteleone said yes. Mr. Figley asked where the water was going. Water Superintendant John Jurjavic said there isn't one specific problem causing the loss and that none of the municipal buildings are metered. Mr. Figley asked if surrounding communities are similar and Jurjavic said he has checked around and that some of them are around 22% to 23% and that we are around 20% water loss, he said that in backwashing alone that uses around 50,000 gallons of water every other day. Mr. Figley asked if the numbers come from what is treated and Jurjavic said yes and that the numbers for water billed come from the office. Jurjavic he did some research back to 2001 and the water production has been fairly consistent for the last 15 years and the going back through the billing to 2005 it is also consistent. Jurjavic said last year's production is higher than the last few but there were 20 water main breaks and the pool issue. Mr. Figley asked about the repair work done in the 90's and Jurjavic said it was point repair, line replacements and that work should have been done in the 80's. Mr. Figley said that point repairs are not very accurate and a waste of money and that slip lining is a better alternative. Jurjavic said slip lining isn't a bad idea but it would require more flow studies and camera work. Monteleone said they do have a meeting with the engineers and the EPA on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**LAW DIRECTOR:** Atty. Powers stated the resolution allowing the manager to hire temporary workers at the plant was done as an emergency because we don't know when the current

supervisor will need to take time off and there has to be someone there to replace him. Mr. Figley asked Atty. Powers if he had seen the article in the paper about a community in W.V. advertising for bid their oil under the community and it was very successful, Atty. Powers said he did not but he would look into it, he said things are slow right now but he doesn't feel it's going to stay that way.

**STREET:** Mr. Figley stated he is pleased with the salting and plowing but he is concerned about pot holes. Monteleone said he met with Street Superintendant Steve Baird and they were discussing getting cold patch to do some repairs. Mr. Figley said there a few holes on Taggart St. that are bad.

**SAFETY/PARK/REC/CEM:** Mr. Cohen asked if the fees at the park were going to stay the same this year because if they need changed it has to be by ordinance and he doesn't want it to turn into an emergency. Mayor Zuch said the fees were adjusted last year and Mr. Figley said he felt those adjustments were adequate.

**DEVELOPMENT: NO REPORT**

**UTILITY:** Mrs. Wisser had no report but stated that the "Sweetheart Campaign" is starting on Thursday.

**FINANCE: NO REPORT**

Mr. Figley stated he had been contacted again about a Stop Sign on Moore Lane and the resident asked him to ask the manager to remove the Stop sign as it is a narrow street with little traffic.

**VISITORS:** Dianna Elzer, Chief Kevin Dickey, John Simon, Pam Figley, Water Supervisor John Jurjavic, Street Superintendent Steve Baird, Mark Walker, John Davis, Kent Chapman, Mary Beth DiCello, Terri Ward, Mary Anne Tyger, and Katie White.

**VISITORS COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEGISLATION:** In reference to the Drug Task Force legislation Brett Todd stated he questioned how sending a full time officer to the DTF wouldn't cost the city anything. He then held up a sign with figures saying the total cost for a full time officer including wages and benefits is \$56,838.06 and the DTF money is \$20,000.00 which leaves the taxpayers to pick up the difference of \$36,838.06 and said that it is actually costing the village money to participate in the DTF and he was told there would be no cost to the village. He said he was also told coverage wouldn't be affected but he doesn't feel replacing a full time office with a part time officer is equal. He said the DTF is a good program and doesn't have a problem with it but he doesn't understand why council wasn't given all of the details. Monteleone said when it began the commissioners gave the \$10,000 to put someone part time on the task force and that year they had an officer there as much as the \$10,000 would pay for and after the success the first year the commissioners advised they would give \$20,000 to try and get someone there full time, so now they send Officer Elser there full time and his position here is filled with part time officers which is less expensive. Monteleone said that there is a \$5000 to \$6000 gap and that is paid out of the police levy. Monteleone said from 2011 to 2012 drug arrests went up around 500%, from 2012 to 2013 it rose another 26% and from 2013 to 2014 they went up another 6% showing what a success the program is and that every year of the program drug related crimes have decreased and juvenile crimes have decreased by 72% from 2013 to 2014. He said that the numbers Mr. Todd has are not accurate, it is not costing the taxpayers \$36,000, the difference between the part time and full time pay creates a gap around \$5000 to \$6000 which comes out of the police levy. Mr. Cohen asked Todd if he wanted the village to drop out of the task force and Todd said no, he wanted to discuss the cost and not statistics. Mr. Cohen asked what Todd wanted and Todd said he wanted council to have all of the information. Chief Dickey said they replace full time with part time hours which is far less cost and it is working out well, he said there is a stop gap that has to be picked up because \$20,000 doesn't cover a whole year. Mr. Cohen said it's a quid pro quo, that we get an entire task force not just one officer. Atty Beagle asked how the numbers could be changed. Chief Dickey said the full time officer is being whether he works in Lisbon or here and Todd's numbers are correct for a full time officer however the hours are being replaced by part time hours and that costs much

less. Todd asked if part time was as effective as full time why we are paying for full time officers and Monteleone said you can't cover every shift with part time people. Mr. Elzer said that what we are currently doing is working. Mr. Elzer asked about the mitigation plan resolution and Monteleone said there were no changes to the plan; it was just a procedure that was needed. Mr. Elzer asked if the plan addressed issues specific to East Palestine or if we had a separate plan if there was a disaster and that if it wasn't specific to us we need our own plan. Atty. Powers stated the county has an emergency management agency that comes into play during specific scenarios. Mr. Cohen stated the railroad running through town is the most dangerous thing we have. Mayor Zuch said our FD has hazmat training.

**LEGISLATION:** Atty. Beagle introduced Ord. 1-2015 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only, seconded by Mr. Cohen. . **An ordinance providing for the authorization of the Municipal manager to advertise for public bid the construction/paving of : West St. from W. North to W. main st., Howell Ave from Stacy Ave to Village Limits, Lyons Ave to the turn (approx 900 ft), E. Highland Ave. (Entire Rd.), N. James St. from E. Grant St. North to end of road, Carbon Hill Rd. from Bacon Ave. to Village Limits and Marion Ave. from N. Market St. to Howell Ave. Together known as the 2015 Street Resurfacing Project, and to further award and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder as relates to the contract, pursuant to the specifications and bidding requirements as determined by the Municipal Manager, and in compliance with law.** Atty. Beagle introduced Ord. 2-2015 and made a motion that it be read by title only, seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance authorizing the Municipal manager to contract for services of a qualified waste water plant operator/and or qualified water treatment plant operator, as independent contractors, on a temporary basis, for the purpose of filling positions which are mandated by EPA Rule and as otherwise required by law, during the temporary absence of employees of the municipality and declaring an emergency.** Atty. Beagle made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency, all in favor. Atty. Beagle called for a vote on Ord. 2-2015. Atty. Beagle-y, Mr. Elzer -y, Mr. Figley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Tyger-y and Mrs. Wisser-y. Atty. Beagle introduced Res. 2-2015 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution adopting the updated Columbiana County Multi Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan.** Atty. Beagle called for a vote on Res. 2-2015. Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Figley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mrs. Wisser-y, Atty. Beagle-y. Atty. Beagle introduced Res. 3-2015 and made a motion that it be read by title only, seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution accepting monies from the Columbian County Board of Commissioners to be used exclusively for wages and related benefits to permit the Village Police Department to assign an officer to the Columbiana County Drug Task Force.** Atty. Beagle called for a vote on Res. 3-2015. Mr. Figley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mrs. Wisser-y, Atty. Beagle-y, Mr. Elzer-y.

**ADJOURN:** Mr. Cohen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tyger. All in favor meeting adjourned..

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MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

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MARGO ZUCH MAYOR